country, particularly for the State of Punjab;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not aries.

(c) The present Textile Policy covers the different sectors of the textiles industry in a comprehensive manner. Problems and issues of different sub sectors such as handloom, jute, etc. are attended to on priority basis by the Government as and when the need arises.

राष्ट्रीय वस्त्र निगम की मिलों द्वारा कंट्रोल के कपड़े का उत्पादन

5398. श्री इकबाल सिंह: क्या वस्त्र मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) पिछले तीन वर्षों के दौरान राष्ट्रीय वस्त्र निगम द्वारा कंट्रोल के कपड़े के उत्पादन का विस्तृत ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ख) क्या यह सच है कि राष्ट्रीय वस्त्र निगम द्वारा निर्मित कपड़ा समाज के कमजोर वर्ग के लोगों को सहकारी समितियों के माध्यम से बेचा जाता है;

(ग) यदि हां, तो पिछले तीन वर्षों के दौरान कितना कंट्रोल का कपड़ा देश के गरीब तथा कमजोर वर्ग के लोगों को सहकारी समितियों के माध्यम से बेचा गया और इसका राज्य-वार/जिला-वार ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(घ) यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं?

वस्त्र मंत्री (श्री जी॰ वेंकट स्वामी): (क) एन टी सी ने वर्ष 1992-93 से 1994-95 के दौरान 67.7 मिलियन वर्ग मीटर कंट्रोल के कपड़े का उत्पादन किया।

(ख) से (घ) एन टी सी कंट्रोल के कपड़े का उत्पादन करता है तथा इसे मुख्यतः राज्य सहकारी संघों, विभिन्न राज्य सरकारों तथा संघ राज्यों के नागरिक आपूर्ति विभागों को बेचता है। इसके अतिरिक्त, समाज के गरीब तथा कमजोर वर्गों को इस कपड़े की बिक्री तथा वितरण की व्यवस्था इन विभागों द्वारा की जाती है। एन टी सी कंट्रोल के कपड़े का एक नगण्य भाग ही अपने खुदरा बिक्री केन्द्रों के माध्यम से बेचता है।

Letters written by MPs

5399. SHRI MOHAMMED AFZAL ALIAS MEEM AFZAL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of letters written by the Members of Parliament to his Ministry during the period from 1st April, 1994 to 31st March, 1995;

(b) what is the number of letters acknowledged out of them;

(c) what is the number of letters in respect of which final replies were sent; and

(d) what is the break-up of final letters issued by the Ministry containing positive and negative replies respectively?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) The total number of references received from Members of Parliament addressed to the Minister during the period 1st April, 1994 to 31st March, 1995 is 535.

(b) All 535 references were acknowledged.

(c) Final replies have been sent in the case of 196 references.

(d) Replies to letters received from Members of Parliament gener contain factual information/clarification/view point of Government etc. on the issues raised. In the light of above, it is not possible to classify such replies as positive or negative.

Janata Cloth Scheme

5400. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of States covered under Janata Cloth Scheme;

(b) the total number of people benefited under the scheme during the last three years, year-wise and State-wise;

(c) the quantity of Janata Cloth produced during the last three years, year-wise;

(d) the number of looms engaged in the manufacture of Janata Cloth in each State; and

(e) how many people are likely to be benefited and how much cloth is likely to be produced during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) At present 15 States are covered under the Janata Cloth Scheme.

(b) to (d) A statement showing the production, number of looms engaged and the people benefited under the scheme for the last three years, year-wise and State-wise are given at Annexure. [*See* Appendix 17 Annexure No. 171]

(e) A target fixed for the year 1995-96 under the Janata Cloth Scheme is 250.00 million square metres. However, as under the existing guidelines the implementing agencies are allowed to surrender target to get benefit of equity under Package-II of the scheme and generate employment through production of Non-Janata Cloth for higher value-addition and better wages, it may not be possible at this stage to assess the number of people benefiting from the scheme.

Outstanding Dues Payable by NTC to Maharashtra State Coop. Cotton Federation

5401. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that National Textile Corporation has to pay the outstanding dues to the extent of Rs. 103.72 crores to the Maharashtra State Cooperative Cotton Federation for the purchase of cotton;

(b) if so, what are reasons for not clearing the said dues of NTC so far; and

(c) by when these are proposed to be released?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) As on 31.3.1995, NTC had to pay a sum of Rs. 76.29 crores to the Maharashtra State Coop. Cotton Growers, Marketing Federation towards purchase of cotton.

(b) and (c) Since cotton is purchased by the NTC mills on credit terms, there are always bound to be certain outstanding dues at any given point of time. NTC is unable to clear all the outstanding dues due to acute working capital shortage. NTC is expected to clear the dues depending upon the availability of working capital.

Yarn Prices

5402. DR. B.B. DUTTA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) The yarn prices in the country during the last five years;

(b) The factors which are responsible for increase in yarn prices;

(c) the impact of rise in yarn prices on the textile sector; and

(d) the steps taken to keep the prices of yarn under control?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) As per Annexure attached. [*See* Appendix 173, Annexure No. 118]

(b) The prices of yarn is primarily governed by market forces such as inflation, supply and demand, cost of power, wages, etc.

(c) Since the yarn is the primary input for fabric production some effect in the increase in yarn will be reflected in the fabric prices. However, other factors such as cost of power, wages, bank interest fiscal levies, etc., also determine such prices.

(d) Prices of yarn are dependent on market forces. Government keeps a close